

Appl. No. 10/731,533
Reply to Final Office Action of February 9, 2006

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application. Claims 5-10, 15-20 and 25-30 have been withdrawn. Claims 1, 11 and 21 have been amended as set forth below. Claims 2-4, 12-14 and 22-24 have been cancelled.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Action rejects Claims 1-3, 11-13 and 21-23 as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent No. 6,733,243 to Ogata et al in view of Conboy et al. 6,662,076, or in view of Jevtic et al. 6,580,967. The Applicant is grateful to the Examiner for recognizing the allowable subject matter claimed in Claims 4, 14 and 24. Independent Claims 1, 11 and 21 have been amended to include the allowable subject matter of respective Claims 4, 14 and 24, which are cancelled without prejudice. Applicant submits that the amended Claims 1, 11 and 21 are now allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is respectfully requested.

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any excess payment that may be associated with this communication to deposit account **04-1679**.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 29, 2006

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